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2008 AARES Distinguished Fellow

Rob Fraser



Rob Fraser is Professor of Agricultural Economics. He completed a first degree in Economics at Adelaide University before gaining a Rhodes Scholarship to study for MPhil and DPhil qualifications in Economics at Oxford University from 1978. His first appointment was as an Assistant Professor of Economics for the University of Virginia, USA in 1981. A year later, he joined the University of Western Australia initially as a Lecturer in Economics, becoming Professor of Agricultural and Resource Economics early in 1999. While there, he won in 1997 both the UWA Excellence in Innovation in Teaching Award and the UWA Excellence in Postgraduate Research Supervision Award. In 2000, he was appointed as a Professor of Agricultural Economics at Imperial College (United Kingdom), and in 2006 he joined the University of Kent in the same capacity.

He has an international research reputation as a policy economist, specialising in both agri-environmental and invasive species policy design and evaluation, including policies affecting world trade. In this context, since moving to the UK in 2000, he has participated in a range of DEFRA and other funded research projects. In addition, he was commissioned in 2006 by the OECD to prepare a report on 'Information Deficiencies in Agri-Environmental Policies', which was then presented as the keynote paper to an OECD Workshop on this topic. He is a Member of the Editorial Boards of the

Journal of Agricultural Economics and the Australian Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics. He is also Academic Advisor to the UK Food Standards Agency and to DEFRA. Most recently, he was appointed as a Consultant Economist to the World Bank. His other contributions to AARES include Treasurer of the WA Branch from 1993–2000, and President of the Society 1998–1999. His contributions to the profession include over 70 refereed papers in a range of Australian and international journals since 1983.